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TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. November 3, 1952
DATE

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SUBJECT: Fortnightly Newsletter - October 20 - November 3, 1952

POLITICAL

Second Action Grouper Goes to India

Dr. Akinola MAJA (President Egbe Omo Oduduwa, Action Group leader, Director AG's Daily Service Press) left this week for India-Pakistan. Following Obafemi AWOLOWO and will join him in India. To seek economic pointers.

Eastern Region NCNC Ends Meetings

Conference approved National Executive decision to give present Nigerian constitution fair trial. Eastern Region NCNC officers elected: Secretary - Dr. A. Nwafor ORIZU; Legal Advisor - Dr. UDOMA. Adm. Secretary - [illegible]. Wachuku ABENGOWE.

Lagos Town Council Elects Mayor

Democratic Party majority in LTC elected Oluyele BRIGHT as Mayor, T. O. S. BENSON Deputy-Mayor. Non-Demo councilors abstained from voting. Terms of Council and officers to end at time of projected LTC reform.

Action Group Parliamentary Council Program

AG council adopted seven-point program:

1. self-government for Nigeria by December 1, 1956;
2. intense party propaganda against unitary government;
3. striving for "American pattern" for Nigerian federation - specific powers for central government and all residual powers for relatively autonomous states;

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4. advocation of public ownership of basic industries, but free enterprise otherwise;

5. free, compulsory education for children;

6. universal free medical care; and

7. encouragement of Nigerian youths to study warfare for national defense.

Egbe Owo Oduduwa Concludes Conference

Oba Adenigi ADELE II of Lagos hosted Egbe's first Lagos conference. Delegates included dozens Yoruba chiefs. First resolution of Assembly rejected Governor's recent settlement Northern-Western Region boundary near Ilorin. Decision was expected as EOO wanted all Yorubas in Western Region, but no serious crisis expected. Conference on record as in cordial alliance with Action Group. Will also attempt solve chieftaincy disputes and problem of widespread corruption, bribery, dishonesty in Yoruba-land. Conference also heard speeches demanding spiritual renaissance of Yorubaland and resistance to non-Yoruba ideas.

Minister of Transport, Chief Bode THOMAS and Minister of Labor S. L. AKINTOLA elected legal advisors - both Action Group leaders.

Proposals for New Nigerian State

NCNC increasing call for new Mid-Western state to be made from Benin and Delta Provinces. Charge discrimination by Western Region government against residents of area as are not of same tribal group predominating remainder of West. Action Group opposes and denies discrimination against Ijaw, Itsekri and Urhobo residents.

Rivers Province Trouble

On the morning of October 29 members of Okrikan tribe attacked river island villages of Ogolomas; destroyed 400 buildings. Reports say none killed, but two injured. Police reinforcements arrested 74 persons, including Okrikan chiefs. Fishing area rights basis of dispute.

COMMERCIAL

New Air Services for Nigeria

West African Airways Corporation began flights November 1 with two new 18-seater "Marathons" on Lagos-Accra and Kumasi-

Takoradi (Gold Coast) runs. Internal Marathon flights expected soon.

Independent airlines, Skyways, expect approval application to begin semi-weekly flights London-Dano-Lagos- Accra. Company now flying occasional Army charter flights this route.

Tea Bureau Closes

The Tea Bureau, in Nigeria since 1948, closed October 31. India's withdrawal from International Tea Market Expansion Board and consequent loss of funds forced closing. Smart advertising techniques had made Bureau's efforts stimulate tea-drinking in Nigeria very successful.

New Locomotives for Nigeria

Three new English engines put into service on Nigerian railways. Four more expected soon from same company.

Cocoa Purchases to October 16

1952-53 crop cocoa purchased totalled 10,282 long tons (main crop).

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Teachers Salary Revision

Acting Governor assures that Council of Ministers will consider revision teacher's salaries when Regions formulate policies.

"Pilot" Editor Reported Seeking Government Job

K. C. OKORO, anti-US night editor West African Pilot, reported by sometime senior employee of PRO as seeking job with Enugu Regional PRO. Okoro claims PRO Harold COOPER offered him job in 1951.

American-Trained Teacher Offered Junior Service Job

Assistant Civil Service Commissioner confirms report Dr. UDOGWU, New York and Toronto trained Doctor of Pedagogy, offered Junior Civil Service appointment pending University of London appraisal acceptability his non-English degrees. Udogwu is demanding Senior Service job communsurate with his qualifications. He not to teach at AZIKIWE's Lagos City College.

GENERAL

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Smuggling Case Stymied; Evidence Stolen

After defending attorney objected to introduction of diamonds in smuggling case because lacking expert identification as diamonds, London expert flown out to look. When expert opened court safe he found bits of glass had been substituted. Case involves alleged smuggling, out of Nigeria, diamonds and £32,000 worth of French francs by Farid KHAWAM.

Robert W. Ross

Robert W. Ross
Vice Consul

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